

Please replace all prior versions of the claims with the following claim listing:

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of transporting a customized user interface environment, based on an operating system which permits customization of user interface environments but which does not itself directly provide for machine-independent invocation of a customized environment, comprising the actions of, at various times:

- a) operating a utility on a first computer to store customized program-specific settings;
- b) operating a second utility on a second computer to reconfigure said second computer to use said customized program-specific settings;
- c) reconfiguring the second computer by merging configuration and program information of said first computer into a local system environment of said second computer; and thereafter,
- d) operating said second computer in accordance with said settings.

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2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores said settings onto a portable data medium.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) also stores environmental settings.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores registry entries.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step b) retrieves said settings from a portable data medium ~~for use~~.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step b) checks for possible conflicts before reconfiguring said second computer.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores said program-specific settings for only some of the programs on said first computer, as manually selected in an operation which does not involve manual installation of programs.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising, after step d), thea subsequent step of reconfiguring said second computer by restoring the local system environment of said second computer, after said step e), to at least partially reverse said step b).

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9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising, after step d), thea subsequent step of again reconfiguring said second computer by restoring the local system environment of said second computer, after said step e), to wholly reverse said step b).

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the subsequent step, after said step c), of automatically erasing all temporary files created on said second computer during said step b).

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of saving any configuration changes made during said steps b) or c), and synchronizing said configuration changes onto said first computer.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores defined user variables.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores link library files.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores a record of any version conflicts of DLLs or system services.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) also automatically captures at least some data files which are identifiably associated with programs for which settings are stored in said step a).

16. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said step b) also automatically identifies program update needs.

17. (New) A method of transporting a customized user interface environment, comprising:

- a) capturing registry information of a first computer;
- b) storing the registry information of the first computer onto a portable data medium;
- c) retrieving the stored registry information of the first computer;
- d) merging the retrieved registry information of the first computer into a registry on a second computer; and
- d) executing the merged registry information on the second computer.

18. (New) The method of Claim 17, wherein the registry information comprises one or more of dynamic link libraries (DLLs), configuration data, environment settings, programs, program data, and combinations thereof.

19. (New) The method of Claim 17, further comprising:

- e) restoring the registry of the second computer by retrieving the merged registry information of the first computer.

20. (New) The method of Claim 17, further comprising before step d):

- c1) creating a backup of registry information on a second computer.